



**January 2011
Rush Sailing Club Newsletter**

Dear Member,

Happy New Year to you and your family from the Commodore and Committee.

Since the last newsletter in October 2010, the club has hosted several events. First was the Laying Up Supper which took place on 20th November. Those who attended enjoyed good food, music and witnessed the awarding of a large number of trophies to our most talented skippers and crews.

The committee for 2011 was elected at the AGM on 24th November as follows:

Commodore:	Martin Redden	Committee:	Jacqui McCrum
Vice Commodore:	Jonathan Mason		Phil Casey
Sailing Secretary:	Patrick Boardman		Patrick Reidy
Secretary:	Marguerite Carthy		Paul Thorne
Treasurer:	Brenda McGuinness		Kevin Whelan
P.R.O.:	Des Jones		Pat Kennelly

Darren Butterly resigned from the committee and we would like to thank him for his hard work over the last number of years. Congratulations to Pat Kennelly on his election to the committee for the first time.

Fundraising

The club hosted two fundraising events in aid of Rush Senior Citizens. Bingo and Wheel of Fortune on 5th December and Santa's visit on 12th December raised €1780. Thanks to all who organised and ran the events and to all who came along. A big thank you from Santa to the children and parents who left gifts under the tree for the needy, these have been sent on to Barnardos for distribution.

The Irish Cancer Society was the beneficiary of the Sponsored Christmas Sail on 19th December, and the Christmas Day Swim. Congratulations to the fifteen swimmers who braved the snow, ice and freezing water. This year the swimmers had to use the beach, due to the unsafe condition of the car park and slipway. Our thanks to Jacqui McCrum for providing facilities and making the conditions for the swimmers a little more bearable. Together the sail and swim raised over €2,570 for the Irish Cancer Society. Anyone who still has sponsorship money is asked to contact Jacqui McCrum 086 8542220.

Those who bought charity Christmas cards will be please to know that €750 was raised for the RNLI. Thanks and well done to Gerry Benson.

Sailing

While the Cruisers and Mermaids are out of the water until April, the laser fleet have been out in strength and have faced extreme weather during the first round of their chill factor series. Beautiful sunshine combined with snow and ice made for a fun series which saw fifteen races taking place over November and December. The series has thirty five RSC laser sailors registered, with up to twenty three boats competing in the river at a time. The juniors are out in force and have provided excellent challenges to the more seasoned sailors, with five of them featuring in the top ten results overall.

Congratulations to Patrick Boardman who has won the first series, followed by Áine Carroll and Cameron Mc Crum. Cameron leads the U18 challengers followed by Ciaran Hand and Brian Carthy. Thanks to Pat Kennelly for all his hard work on the results, to Marguerite Carthy and Ann Carthy in the kitchen and to our regulars on rescue, slip management and OD. The series continues in the new year.

At present it is proposed to start the 2011 Mermaid series on 10th of April and to hold the Cruiser Lift in on 16th of April. A junior cruiser day passage to Carlingford is being proposed for Easter Saturday. There will be more information from the class captains via e-mail, web texts and the notice boards closer to the dates.

Junior News

This year, for the first time, ISA courses are continuing throughout the winter months. Seventeen junior RSC sailors are busy navigating their way through charts on a Friday night at the club, as they participate in an ISA Adventure 1 course which introduces the sailors to the skills and knowledge they need to undertake longer trips and to sail in stronger winds. Plans are being developed to arrange a longer trip during warmer weather, hopefully with the support of our own cruiser class, some of whom have already indicated their commitment. In addition, four of the juniors, Brian Carthy, Ciaran Hand, Cameron Mc Crum and Clara Hynes have successfully been awarded their ISA Racing 2 Certificate, a first for RSC. This course was undertaken over the last two years and involved competing at local and national laser events, race coaching at weekends, among a long list of other requirements. Well done to them and their parents on support!

Snooker

The Inter Club Snooker league has started and RSC are lying about mid table at the moment. Included in the team this year are Gerry Murtagh, Michael Moore, Michael Redmond, Paddy Archer, Peter Warren, Tom Ryan, Brendan Penie, Stephen Harford, and Eoin Carthy. The second half of the league is due to start in mid-January. RSC is hoping for a good result. New members are always welcome.

Communication

For 2011 we will continue to communicate via email, text messaging and our website www.rushsc.ie which is updated regularly. All important information will also be placed on the club noticeboard. Be sure to take a look at the gallery section of the website where you will find lots of photographs of recent events.

Gate Access

The entrance code for the gate will change in the next few days.

Des Jones
P.R.O.